

Special Edition/
Conferences
January 2003

# Why Attend Business Conferences?

There are several questions that you need to ask yourself in order to make a decision to attend business conferences. First of all, do I have all the business I want and can handle? Do I need to expand my contacts in other areas of the state? Do I need to find out what other businesses are doing to promote their products and services? Do I need to know about my competition? Do I know about all of the opportunities and services that are available to my business? Do I want to meet great people and have a good time? I will assume that the majority of you answered yes to all of the above questions. So let's pursue the advantages of attending business conferences.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has been attending business and economic forums and conferences for many years. The conferences allow us to provide companies and individuals

information regarding the business opportunities that are currently available. We are also able to provide the necessary requirements for submitting a bid. Too often we encounter businesses lacking the knowledge of the procurement and contracting procedures that are essential in completing a bid package.

One of the most valuable services that TxDOT's Business Opportunity Programs (BOP) Section provides at these events is the opportunity to complete our Business Opportunity Programs Business Profile. Attendees that visit our display booth are invited to complete a profile form. This is the first step in receiving one-on-one business appointments with the appropriate purchasers and contract managers at TxDOT. We will walk your business through all of the appropriate procedures to become a knowledgeable bidder with TxDOT.

Conferences are for the business person who is serious about learning new ways to market their business. We have chosen some of the most exciting 2003 conferences to share with you. All of these conferences provide a wide selection of workshops, expo shows, partnering socials, networking opportunities, electronic commerce and forums for small and minority-owned businesses to secure major contracts with public and private entities. Also, you will be able to network with elected and public officials.

On the light side, these conferences offer a varied selection of networking and social events. There will be golf tournaments, casino parties, receptions, dances, and a lot of good food. To sum it all up, conferences provide a unique atmosphere to enhance your life, as well as your business gross receipts.

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### **From The Director**

One of the more exciting methods of promot-



James Dossett

ing TxDOT's business opportunities is through various economic forums and conferences. Conferences offer a unique atmosphere in which business transactions are the focus.

It is my pleasure to endorse the confer-

ences highlighted in this publication. They all provide a variety of events that are designed to enhance your business. They all have elected and public officials attending so you may have an opportunity to meet them. They all provide great entertainment. Each of these conferences will provide you with a great time and a greater awareness of the business opportunities currently available.

I encourage you to spend a little time and get the registration information for each of these events. If you need additional information, please give TxDOT's Business Opportunity Programs Section a call. Our toll free number is 866/480-2518.

Hope to see you at these events.



## **Announcing the Next Big Event!**

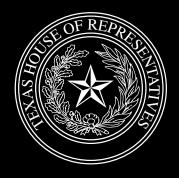
for





TxDOT's Business Opportunity Programs Section invites you to participate in the EOF and Spot Bid Fair held in conjunction with the Texas Legislative Black Caucus Legislative Conference on Thursday, February 6, 2003 from 8:00am - 12:00 noon at the Frank Erwin Center, University of Texas-Austin. The EOF and Spot Bid Fair will allow small to mid-size minority-owned and women-owned businesses the chance to find winning contract opportunities.

It is the intent of the Texas Legislative Black Caucus to have on-the-spot awards as well as announcements of the winners at the close of this event. Numbers show that the February 2002 Spot Bid Contract Fair awarded bids to minority businesses in excess of \$100,000. It is our goal to surpass last year's accomplishments by doubling the number of contracts.



# **Texas Legislative Black Caucus**

Join us for a

Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Economic Opportunity Forum (EOF)

**Spot Bid Fair** 

In conjunction with The Texas Legislative Black Caucus

9:00am — 12:00 noon Thursday, February 6, 2003 Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, Austin, TX

This is a <u>fast paced</u> morning event where vendors will have a chance to meet agency purchasing representatives, submit bids, win contracts, learn about HUB Certification, Agency procedures and Network.

FREE

Vendors Register at the Event No pre-registration necessary

Parking in Lot 108 or Parking Garage west of Red River at MLK

For More Information contact: Annette Smith (512) 471-2850, <u>annettesmith@mail.utexas.edu</u> Angie Brown (512) 472-1726, <u>angie.brown@cpfm.utexas.edu</u> Tiffany Dockery (512) 471-2863, <u>tiffdockery@mail.utexas.edu</u>

# Other 2003 Events

### Third Annual Purchasing and HUB Connection

Presented by:

Texas Workforce Commission and Teacher Retirement System of Texas

Austin

February 12, 2003

1:00 - 4:00pm

Texas Workforce Commission 1117 Trinity Street Room 304T Austin, TX 78701

### Entrepreneur EXPO "Worth a Million"

Presented by:

Lockheed Martin & JP Morgan Chase

**Fort Worth** 

March 14, 2003

7:00am - 4:30pm

Hosted by:

The BAC Education Foundation

The Fort Worth Women's Business Center and City of Fort Worth

Fort Worth Convention Center

For more information call: 817-871-6031

#### West Texas Economic Summit

Sponsored by:

Texas Tech University

Lubbock

March 24-25, 2003

Lubbock Convention Center

806-775-2244

#### **Government Procurement Connections 2003**

Sponsored by:

City of Houston, State of Texas, Houston Federal Executive Board, Metropolitan Transit Authority, Houston Independent School District, Houston Minority Business Council and The Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises

Location and Time:

George R. Brown Convention Center

Tuesday, April 8th – Appreciation Reception –TBA Wednesday, April 9th – 6:00am – 4:00pm Contact: Sheree McCarty (713) 837-9049

# TXDOT Business Opportunity Programs

# Phone and Fax Numbers Area Code 512

	Phone	Fax
Main Number	486-5500	486-5509
Certification/Audits	486-5530	486-5539
Goal Setting/Data Reporting	486-5500	486-5519
Compliance/Complaints	486-5510	486-5519
Education/Outreach	486-5540	486-5529

New toll-free number: 866/480-2518

#### TxDOT Road Lines James Dossett, Editor Pat Merrill, Assistant Editor Gloria Brown, Copy Coordinator

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### Visit TxDOT on the Web

If additional assistance is needed, please contact the Education & Outreach branch of the BOP Section at our toll free number 866/480-2518.

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"	Right of Way Acquisition Contract Information"
"	Specification Information"



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